

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 14802 140658Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 MCT-02 EB-08 PM-05 COME-00  
SS-15 ACDA-12 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02  
NSC-05 /082 W

-----004281 151201Z /47

R 131721Z SEP 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9967  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 14802

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ETRD MASS LY UK  
SUBJECT: BRITISH TRUCK TRANSPORTERS

REF: LONDON 14738

1. FCO ACTING NEAR EAST DEPARTMENT HEAD TOMKYS,  
WHO WAS CALLED OUT OF HIS OFFICE SEPTEMBER 13,  
ASKED LIBYAN DESK OFFICER TO CONVEY TO US HIS  
CONTINUING CONCERN THAT HE MAY HAVE INADVERTENTLY  
MISLED US ON TANK TRANSPORTER SALE. AT HIS  
REQUEST, LIBYAN DESK OFFICER REVIEWED PERTINENT  
FCO FILE AND ASKED THAT DEPARTMENT BE REMINDED OF  
BISHOP CONVERSATION WITH RICHARD MUIR ON JUNE 2.  
FCO CABLE OF INSTRUCTIONS TO MUIR FOR THAT MEETING  
RECORD HMG VIEW THAT TANK TRANSPORTER SALE WOULD  
IMPROVE MILITARY MOBILITY BUT TRANSPORTERS COULD NOT  
BE CONSIDERED AS WEAPONS PER SE AND THUS WOULD NOT  
INCREASE POSSIBILITY OF HOSTILITIES. MUIR WAS  
INSTRUCTED TO NOTE THAT HMG HAD "AGREED TO SELL  
MODERATE QUANTITIES IN THE PAST, 150 REPEAT 150 IN  
L975; CONDITIONS WHICH OBTAINED IN 1975 WERE, HMG  
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PAGE 02 LONDON 14802 140658Z

BELIEVED, UNCHANGED (IN JUNE L978). AT TIME  
INSTRUCTIONS WERE DRAFTED FOR JUNE 2 MEETING,  
CURRENT SALE WAS NOT UNDER CONSIDERATION.

2. EMBOFF ASKED THAT TOMKYS BE INFORMED THERE  
WAS NO QUESTION OF BREACH OF FAITH; MISUNDERSTANDINGS  
DO OCCUR. WE, NEVERTHELESS, VERY MUCH REGRET HMG

DECISION TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THIS SALE.

BREWSTER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY SALES, TRUCKING COMPANIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 sep 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978LONDON14802  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780375-1073  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** LONDON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780972/aaaachqt.tel  
**Line Count:** 65  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 350c5851-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 LONDON 14738  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01 jul 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1455117  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BRITISH TRUCK TRANSPORTERS  
**TAGS:** ETRD, MASS, LY, UK  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/350c5851-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014